

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:
enumerating local credentials and remote credentials in response to
receiving an event notification; and

5 synchronizing the local credentials and remote credentials.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing the local credentials
and the remote credentials is based on at least one time-stamp associated with the
local credentials and at least one time-stamp associated with the remote
10 credentials.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing the local credentials
and the remote credentials is based on a comparison of hash values.

15 4. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing includes error
handling.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing includes writing at
least one of the local credentials to a remote credential cache.

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6. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing includes writing at least one of the remote credentials to a local credential cache.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing includes deleting at least one of the local credentials from a local credential cache.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing includes deleting at least one of the remote credentials from a remote credential cache.

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9. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing includes modifying at least one of the local credentials at a local credential cache based on at least one of the remote credentials.

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10. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing includes modifying at least one of the remote credentials at a remote credential cache based on at least one of the local credentials.

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11. The method of claim 1, further comprising updating a list of local credentials.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising updating a list of remote credentials.

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a state of the
5 remote credentials dynamically.

14. The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining a state file
for the remote credentials.

10 15. The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining a state file
for the local credentials.

16. The method of claim 1, further comprising resolving a conflict of
state between the local credentials and the remote credentials.

17. A computer program product encoding a computer program for
executing on a computer system a computer process, the computer process
comprising:

enumerating local credentials and remote credentials in response to
5 receiving an event notification; and
synchronizing the local credentials and remote credentials.

18. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer
process further comprises synchronizing the local credentials and the remote
10 credentials is based on at least one time-stamp associated with the local credentials
and at least one time-stamp associated with the remote credentials.

19. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer
process further comprises synchronizing the local credentials and the remote
15 credentials is based on a comparison of hash values.

20. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer
process further comprises writing at least one of the local credentials to a remote
credential cache.

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21. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer process further comprises writing at least one of the remote credentials to a local credential cache.

5 22. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer process further comprises removing at least one of the local credentials from a local credential cache.

23. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer
10 process further comprises removing at least one of the remote credentials from a remote credential cache.

24. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer
process further comprises modifying at least one of the local credentials at a local
15 credential cache.

25. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer process further comprises modifying at least one of the remote credentials at a remote credential cache.

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26. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer process further comprises updating a list of local credentials.

27. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer
5 process further comprises updating a list of remote credentials.

28. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer process further comprises maintaining a state of the remote credentials.

10 29. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer process further comprises determining a state of the remote credentials dynamically.

30. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer
15 process further comprises maintaining a state of the local credentials.

31. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer process further comprises error handling.

32. The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the computer process further comprises resolving a conflict of state between the local credentials and the remote credentials.

33. A system comprising:
an event handler to receive event notifications; and
a synchronizing module operatively associated with the event handler to
synchronize local credentials and remote credentials when the event handler
5 receives an event notification and if the local and remote credentials are different
from one another

34. The system of claim 33, wherein the event notification is at least one
of the following: a session event, a logon event, a logout event, a lock event, an
10 unlock event, a timer event, a policy application event, and a credential update
event.

35. The system of claim 33, wherein the credentials include at least one
of the following: an encryption credential, a token, an asymmetric key pair, a
15 symmetric key, a digital certificate, an XrML license, an authentication credential,
an authorization credential.

36. The system of claim 33, further comprising a local store manager to
enumerate the local credentials for the synchronizing module.

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37. The system of claim 33, further comprising a remote store manager to enumerate the remote credentials for the synchronizing module.

38. The system of claim 33, wherein the local credentials are stored in a
5 local cache.

39. The system of claim 33, wherein the local credentials are stored in a local cache provided at any number (n) of clients.

10 40. The system of claim 33, wherein the local credentials are encrypted using a master key.

41. The system of claim 33, wherein the remote credentials are stored in a remote cache.
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42. The system of claim 33, wherein the local credentials are stored in a remote cache provided at any number (n) of hosts.

43. The system of claim 33, wherein the remote credentials are
20 maintained by a remote directory service.

44. The system of claim 33, wherein the remote credentials are encrypted.